



COMMISSION ON PEACE OFFICER STANDARDS AND TRAINING

1601 ALHAMBRA BOULEVARD
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95816-7083
www.post.ca.gov

Date: **February 9, 2007**

Bulletin: **No. 2007-01**

Subject: **Commission Approves National Incident Management (NIMS) Courses for First Responders**

At its October 2006, meeting the POST Commission approved the curriculum for three new training courses that fully comply with Homeland Security Presidential Directive -5 and California Government Code 8607.

Federal guidelines require the integration and institutionalization of the National Incident Management System (NIMS). California law requires the use of the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS). The core component of each of these systems is the Incident Command System (ICS). To comply, first responders must complete all of the required training by October 1, 2007.

FY 2006 federal standards required completion of the IS-700, ICS-100, and ICS-200 training by September 30, 2006. While many agencies have met the training standard, and a number of them continue training their personnel to achieve full compliance, a significant number of agencies are not in compliance and risk losing homeland-security grant funds in FY 2007. *Completion of the IS-700, ICS-100, and ICS-200 training is a prerequisite to attending any of these new training courses.*

FY 2007 federal standards require that supervisors, managers, and command level personnel complete IS-800, ICS-300, and ICS-400 training prior to October 1, 2007. Agency executives and administrators must complete an executive overview course designed to acquaint them with NIMS/SEMS/ICS and emergency management of critical incidents which require a multi jurisdictional response.

The POST-developed and certified courses federal and state training requirements are the following:

- ICS 300 & 400 Train-the-Trainer Course for Response Personnel
- ICS 300 & 400 Course for Response Personnel
- NIMS/SEMS/ICS Executive Course for Administrators and Policymakers

American Homeland Solutions is the POST-certified presenter of the new NIMS/SEMS/ICS training courses and offers a complete suite of training courses that cover all federal and state objectives. For information about the scheduled presentations of the new courses, go to www.americanhomelandsolutions.com or call 714.940.6370.

The courses are at the Department of Homeland Security, Office of Grants and Training (G&T), for review and approval. Pending completion of the federal approval process, agencies are permitted to use their federal homeland security funds for course tuition, travel and per diem, and overtime and backfill.

The attached letter, sent by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in October 2006 to all Governors, includes updated information on the National Incident Management System (NIMS) Fiscal Year (FY) 2007 compliance requirements. FEMA is changing from a self-certification compliance process to specific performance-based metrics in FY 2007. The Department of Homeland Security will monitor the performance – based metrics process.

The attached FEMA FY 2007 NIMS Compliance Metrics Fact Sheet includes compliance guidance information. The website at www.fema.gov/emergency/nims/index.shtm offers additional information.

The courses approved by the Commission will assist agencies in providing appropriate training and meeting the FY 2007 compliance training requirements.

Please direct your questions about any of the NIMS/SEMS/ICS courses and federal and state training requirements to Ken Whitman, Special Consultant, Homeland Security Training Program, by email at Ken.Whitman@post.ca.gov or by telephone at 916.227.5561.

HAL SNOW

Interim Executive Director

Attachments:

1. October 2006 FEMA Letter
2. October 2006 FEMA FY 2007 NIMS Compliance Metrics Fact Sheet



FEMA

To: All Governors
From: Federal Emergency Management Agency

Date: October 23, 2006

Dear Governor (last name):

The purpose of this letter is to provide you and your staff with information on the National Incident Management System (NIMS) Fiscal Year (FY) 2007 compliance requirements. The NIMS is our nation's incident management system, and implementation of NIMS among all jurisdictions and all levels of government must be achieved as quickly as possible to ensure the security of our homeland.

As you are aware, Homeland Security Presidential Directive-5 "*Management of Domestic Incidents*" (HSPD-5) required the adoption of NIMS by all Federal departments and agencies. This directive also required that Federal preparedness assistance funding for states, territories, tribes and local jurisdictions be dependent on NIMS compliance. NIMS implementation is also linked to the National Response Plan (NRP), the Homeland Security Presidential Directive-8, *National Preparedness* (HSPD-8), and the National Infrastructure Protection Plan.

In FY 2005 and 2006, states self-certified that they were making a "good faith" effort to implement the NIMS. The self-certification compliance process is being changed to specific performance-based metrics in FY 2007, which will be monitored for compliance by DHS. Additionally, the FEMA Regional Offices have a dedicated NIMS Compliance Point of Contact who can provide technical assistance in implementing the NIMS and the NRP.

This letter and the enclosed CD-ROM containing the FY 2007 NIMS implementation documents outline the important steps that states, territories, tribes, and local jurisdictions must take during FY 2007 (October 1, 2006 - September 30, 2007) to gain compliance. For your convenience, the CD-ROM also contains a list of NIMS Compliance Points of Contact in FEMA Regional Offices. The first document, "*NIMS Implementation Matrix for States and Territories*," identifies the state and territorial level NIMS compliance requirements. The second document, "*NIMS Implementation Matrix for Tribal and Local Jurisdictions*," identifies the tribal and local level NIMS compliance requirements.

In addition to the matrices, this compliance package includes metrics for state and territorial governments, tribal and local governments, and terms of reference. These performance-based metrics were derived, in part, from the compliance requirement activities specified in FY 2006 and with input from state, territorial, tribal, and local stakeholders. The NIMS Integration Center (NIC) is also upgrading the online NIMS Capability Assessment and Support Tool (NIMCAST) to reflect the FY 2007 requirements and to offer specific instructions on NIMS compliance. The upgrade to this free compliance tool is expected to be available in early calendar year 2007. In the interim, specific guidance will be provided in frequent NIMS Alerts and on the NIC website.

It is important to note that not all compliance activities identified in the matrices will have to be implemented in FY 2007. The matrices clearly outline which activities must be implemented in FY 2007 (“tier 1”) , and those which governments should begin to work on as they will become required in FY 2008 (any not identified as “tier 1”). Future refinement to the NIMS compliance metrics will evolve as policy and technical issues are identified and clarified at the national level.

Successful implementation of the NIMS depends on the participation and integration of all state, territorial, tribal, local jurisdictions and community-based organizations, including public, non-governmental, and private organizations that may have a role in disaster preparedness and response. Equally important to this effort is to establish a seamless relationship between the NRP and the NIMS. Therefore, governmental entities that must comply with NIMS should identify and include appropriate organizations in their NIMS implementation efforts, including private sector emergency medical and hospital providers, transportation systems, utilities, and special facilities such as industrial plants, nuclear power plants, factories, military facilities, stadiums, and arenas.

Additional information about NIMS implementation and resources for achieving compliance are available through the NIC. The NIC web page is updated regularly with information about the NIMS and additional guidance for implementation. The NIC may also be contacted at the following locations:

Al Fluman, Acting Director
NIMS Integration Center
Federal Emergency Management Agency
500 C Street, SW
Washington, DC 20472
(202) 646-3850

NIMS-Integration-Center@dhs.gov

Web page: <http://www.fema.gov/emergency/nims/index.shtm>

Thank you for your support in implementing the NIMS. I look forward to continuing our collective efforts to better secure the homeland and protect our citizens.

Sincerely,

R. David Paulison
Director

Enclosure

cc: State Administrative Agency
State Emergency Management Director
State Homeland Security Advisor
Tribal Association Chairs
DHS Directorates and Offices
Homeland Security Advisory Council



FEMA

NIMS Alert

October 30, 2006
NA: 017-06
NIMS Integration Center
202-646-3850

FY07 NIMS Compliance Metrics Fact Sheet

Background:

Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5 “*Management of Domestic Incidents*” required that states, territories, local jurisdictions and tribal entities adopt the National Incident Management System (NIMS). Over the past two years, all of these entities have made significant progress in implementing the NIMS system. The implementation of the NIMS across the nation creates a baseline capability that, once established, will be the foundation for our prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery strategies. During FY05 and FY06, states were asked to “self-certify” their NIMS compliance.

Fiscal Year 2007:

By September 30, 2007, jurisdictions will be required to comply with the FY07 NIMS requirements to receive FY08 emergency preparedness grants. In FY07, all jurisdictions must comply with specific performance-based metrics. These metrics were derived, in part, from the FY06 required compliance activities and also include some new performance measures.

Metrics will be used to:

- Gather information on the current state of NIMS compliance;
- Identify best practices and areas that may require further technical assistance;
- Provide continued guidance and feedback; and
- Assist with the refinement of metrics and/or data-gathering tools.

The nation’s Governors received a FY07 NIMS Compliance package that included:

- State/Territorial Matrix
 - Associated State/Territorial Metrics
- Local/Tribal Matrix
 - Associated Local/Tribal Metrics
- Terms of Reference

NIMCAST Upgrade:

The NIMCAST tool will be redesigned and available in early 2007 that is geared to better meet stakeholder needs. All jurisdictions are encouraged to use the upgraded NIMCAST to assess their compliance. However, other commercially-developed software compliance tools may be used for this purpose, provided that the software replicates data NIMCAST will collect and is compatible with the redesigned tool.



FEMA

NIMS *Alert*

*October 30, 2006
NA: 017-06
NIMS Integration Center
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Tiers:

The metrics are divided into three categories, or “tiers.” Only Tier 1 metrics (in bold type) are deemed critical and must be answered in the affirmative by jurisdictions to be NIMS compliant for FY07. Tier 2 and Tier 3 metrics will give jurisdictions an opportunity to better identify areas of the NIMS that may require technical assistance.

Terms of Reference:

The Terms of Reference document defines words or phrases that may require further explanation.

Questions and comments can be directed to the NIMS Integration Center at: NIMS-Integration-Center@dhs.gov or 202-646-3850.

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